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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This paper is a response to the Office Action mailed on March 26, 2004, wherein Claims 1-6, 9, and 10 were rejected, Claims 11-15 were allowed, and Claims 7 and 8 were indicated as including allowable subject matter. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended and Claims 4, 5, 6, and 7 have been cancelled. Claims 1-3 and 8-15 remain pending.

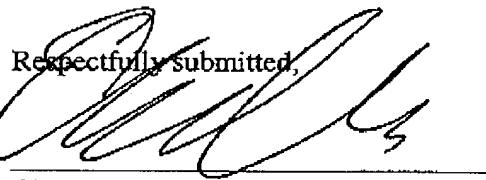
Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C § 103

On pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-6 , 9, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Kleefeldt in combination with Ikeda et al. and L'Esperance et al. Applicants have amended Claim 1 with the subject matter of Claim 7. Claim 1 and its dependant claims should now be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

The entire Office Action dated March 26, 2004 has been carefully reviewed, and this response is submitted as being fully responsive thereto. In view of the preceding remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-3 and 8-15 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request such action at the Examiner's earliest convenience. If the Examiner believes that personal contact would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is requested to call the undersigned at his earliest convenience.

If for some reason a fee needs to be paid, please charge Deposit Account No. 07-0960 for the fees, which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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